

UA1980.38

Dorr E. Felt Collection 20th Century Press Bureau

Dates: 1913-1917 (Bulk 1913-1914)

Creator: Felt, Dorr E. (1862-1930)

Extent: 0.5 linear feet

Level of description: Folder

Processor & date: Brooke Sutter, September 2016; updated by K. Young, December 2016

Administration Information

Restrictions: No restrictions.

Copyright: Consult Archivist for information.

Citation: Loyola University Chicago. Archives and Special Collections. *Dorr E. Felt Clipping Collection: 20th Century Press Bureau, Want-Ads, 1913*. Box #, Folder.

Provenance: Records transferred to Loyola University Archives in November 1955 by Raymond Koch, son-in-law of Dorr Felt and then president of Felt and Tarrant Mfg. Co.

Separations: No separations.

See Also: Dorr E. Felt Collection – United States Employers’ Commission to Europe, 1918-1920; Dorr E. Felt Collection – World War I, 1909-1930; Dorr E. Felt Collection – International Trade and Labor Conferences, 1919-1921; Dorr E. Felt Collection – Felt and Tarrant Manufacturing Records, 1916-1926

Biographical Sketch

Dorr Eugene Felt was born in Rock County, Wisconsin on March 18, 1862. At fourteen he began working in a machine shop in Beloit, Wisconsin. He moved to Chicago in 1882 and obtained work as a mechanic. A perceptive and skilled worker with an entrepreneurial spirit, in his free time Felt devised and constructed a computation device out of such crude materials as a macaroni box, rubber bands, and metal skewers. Felt called the machine a Comptometer. A mechanical calculator, the Comptometer was the first mechanical calculator to greatly improve upon the first mechanical computing device created, the arithmometer, which was first commercially distributed in 1851. Felt opened Felt and Tarrant Manufacturing Company with Chicago businessman Robert Tarrant in 1889; a large manufacturing facility in Chicago, out of which he built and sold Comptometers. The Comptometer computing device became a great commercial success and was sold and used world-wide. Felt went on to invent more devices and acquired 46 domestic patents and 25 foreign patents.

As a result of Felt’s experience as president of a large industrial company, he was asked by the U.S. Department of Labor to participate in a study of labor relations in Europe. Joining a team of other individuals from the United States, Felt toured England and France in order to examine manufacturing facilities and to speak with owners, managers, and laborers about the successes and frustrations of labor conditions in the two countries. The results of the commission’s inquiries were reported and published, but more importantly this trip marked the beginning of Felt’s close involvement with national

and international trade and labor interests. Felt attended and spoke at labor conferences and wrote about labor conditions, unions, communism, Bolshevism, and other labor-related subjects.

In addition to writing and speaking on broad topics, Felt held posts as president and director of the Illinois Manufacturers Association, president of the Illinois Society Sons of the American Revolution, and director of the United States Chamber of Commerce in 1920. Felt was a regional advisor on the War Industries Board in 1918, a board member of the Chicago Association of Commerce, and a member of Chicago's Union League Club.

Scope and Content

The 20th Century Press Bureau section of the Dorr E. Felt collection consists of 0.75 linear feet and spans the years 1913-1917. The records consist of correspondence, want-ads seeking comptometer operators, and newspaper clippings on Felt & Tarrant Co., Inc. Subjects include comptometer (operators), Felt & Tarrant Co., Inc., labor, the Twentieth Century Press Clipping Bureau, and want-ads.

Series

Series 1: Correspondence, 1913-1916, Box 1

This series includes letters both to and from the Felt & Tarrant Co., Inc. Most of these letters are between the company and the Twentieth Century Press Clipping Bureau, though there are a few other senders and recipients. The correspondence mainly consists the Felt & Tarrant Co., Inc. refining its requests for want-ads seeking comptometer operators, or ads offering instruction on comptometers.

Series 2: Want-Ads for Comptometer Operators, 1913-1914, Box 1

This series consists of want-ads seeking comptometer operators, or seeking to fill like-positions (e.g., adding machine operators, stenographers, bookkeepers, etc.). Most of the clippings come from cities like Buffalo, Pittsburg, New Orleans, Milwaukee, Omaha, and Los Angeles.

Series 3: Newspaper Clippings on Felt & Tarrant Co., Inc., 1917, Box 1

This series contains newspaper clippings that, for the most part, briefly mention Felt & Tarrant Co., Inc. Also included is one article written by Felt. The articles focus on both the company's new commercial lease in Chicago and the industry's concerns over a bill under review in the senate.

Subjects:

Comptometer (operators)
Felt, Dorr E.
Felt & Tarrant Co., Inc.
Labor
Twentieth Century Press Clipping Bureau
Want-Ads

Accession No.: UA1980.38

Creator: Felt, Dorr E. (1862-1930)

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Dates</u>
		<u>Series 1: Correspondence, 1913- 1916</u>	
1	1	Correspondence	1913-1916
		<u>Series 2: Want-Ads for Comptometer Operators, 1913- 1914</u>	
1	2	Want-Ads for Comptometer Operators	Jan.-Mar. 1913
1	3	Want-Ads for Comptometer Operators	April 1913
1	4	Want-Ads for Comptometer Operators	May-Jun. 1913
1	5	Want-Ads for Comptometer Operators	Jun.-Aug. 1913
1	6	Want-Ads for Comptometer Operators	Aug.-Oct. 1913
1	7	Want-Ads for Comptometer Operators	Oct.-Nov. 1913
1	8	Want-Ads for Comptometer Operators	Dec. 1913-Feb. 1914
1	9	Want-Ads for Comptometer Operators	Mar.-Apr. 1914
1	10	Want-Ads for Comptometer Operators	May-Jul. 1914
		<u>Series 3: Newspaper Clippings on Felt & Tarrant Co., Inc., Aug. 5-Sept. 8, 1917</u>	
1	11	Newspaper Clippings on Felt & Tarrant Co., Inc.	Aug.-Sept. 1917